

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A clip for fastening a plurality of plate members, said clip comprising a bush and a pin to be inserted into said bush, wherein
said pin includes a flange, a shank having a first planar surface extending downward from the lower surface of said flange, and an enlarged portion at the lower end of said shank,

said bush defining a pin accepting aperture having a second planar surface configured to slidably engage the first planar surface, said bush includes a ring portion having a step for receiving said flange therein, a holding portion having an engagable pawl provided on ~~[[the]]~~ a downside of the periphery of said ring portion, a pair of opposed legs inclining inwardly and provided on the downside of said ring portion and on ~~[[the]]~~ an inside location of said holding portion, and a pair of retaining portions each provided at ~~[[the]]~~ a lower end of the corresponding leg, wherein

in an assembled state after said pin₁ and said bush are assembled by inserting said enlarged portion of said pin into said bush, said holding portion is configured to engage said enlarged portion and said pair of legs of said bush are adapted to maintain inward inclining, and

in a pushed-in state after said pin is fully pushed into said bush, said legs and said retaining portions are adapted to be moved outward by ~~said enlarged portion of said pin~~ the sliding engagement of the first and second planar surfaces so as to allow

said plate members to be fastened between the lower surface of said holding portion of said bush and the respective upper surfaces of said retaining portions, and to allow the lower surface of said enlarged portion of said pin to be substantially coplanar with the respective lower surfaces of said retaining portions of said bush.

2. (Original) A clip as defined in claim 1, wherein in said pushed-in state, the lower surface of said enlarged portion and the respective lower surfaces of said retaining portions are adapted to form a continuous flat surface thereacross.

3. (Original) A clip as defined in claim 2, wherein said continuous flat surface has an oval shape.

4. (Original) A clip as defined in claim 1, wherein said pin and said bush are provided with engagement means for allowing said pin and said bush to be engaged with one another so as to be held in said respective assembled and pushed-in states.

5. (Original) A clip as defined in claim 1, wherein each of said legs of said bush is provided with a rib.

6. (Original) A clip as defined in claim 1, wherein said ring portion of said bush is provided with a detaching groove for detaching said pin from said bush in said pushed-in state.

7. (New) A clip as defined in claim 6, wherein said shank defines a second groove aligned with said detaching groove.

8. (New) A clip as defined in claim 6, wherein said engagable pawl is aligned with said detaching groove.

9. (New) A clip for fastening a plurality of plate members, said clip comprising a bush and a pin to be inserted into said bush, wherein

said pin includes a flange and a shank having a first planar engagement surface generally perpendicular to the flange, said shank having an enlarged feature at a lower end of said shank,

said bush defining a pin accepting aperture having a second generally planar surface, said bush includes a ring portion having a step for receiving said flange therein, a holding portion having an engagable pawl provided on a downside of said ring portion, a pair of opposed legs inclining inwardly and provided on a downside of said ring portion and on the inside of said holding portion, and a pair of retaining portions each provided at the lower end of the corresponding leg, wherein

said pin is movable from a first engagement position where said holding portion is engaged with said engagement feature and wherein said pair of legs of said bush are adapted to maintain inward inclining, to a second position, wherein said legs and said retaining portions are moved outward by interaction of said first and second planar engagement surfaces so as to allow said plate members to be fastened between the lower surface of said holding portion of said bush and the respective upper surfaces

of said retaining portions, and to allow a lower surface of said shank to be substantially coplanar with the respective lower surfaces of said retaining portions of said bush.